

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1    1.    A method for providing network-based supply chain communication between  
2       stores, distributors, suppliers, a supply chain manager, and an office of the supply  
3       chain manager, comprising:
  - 4       a)    transmitting invoice level sales data from the supplier to the supply chain manager  
5           utilizing a network;
  - 6       b)    sending invoice level sales data from the distributors to the supply chain manager  
7           utilizing the network;
  - 8       c)    communicating daily sales data from the stores to the office of the supply chain  
9           manager utilizing the network; and
  - 10      d)    transmitting daily sales data from the office of the supply chain manager to the  
11           supply chain manager utilizing the network, wherein the daily sales data is  
12           organized based on the stores from which the daily sales data originated.
- 1    2.    The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1    3.    The method of claim 1, wherein the stores, the distributors, the suppliers, the  
2       supply chain manager, and the office of the supply chain manager communicate  
3       utilizing a network-based interface.
- 1    4.    The method of claim 1, wherein the gross purchase data includes monthly gross  
2       purchase data.
- 1    5.    The method of claim 1, wherein the supply chain manager manages the  
2       distributors.

- 1 6. A system for providing network-based supply chain communication between  
2 stores, distributors, suppliers, a supply chain manager, and an office of the supply  
3 chain manager, comprising:
  - 4 a) logic for transmitting invoice level sales data from the supplier to the supply chain  
5 manager utilizing a network;
  - 6 b) logic for sending invoice level sales data from the distributors to the supply chain  
7 manager utilizing the network;
  - 8 c) logic for communicating daily sales data from the stores to the office of the  
9 supply chain manager utilizing the network; and
  - 10 d) logic for transmitting daily sales data from the office of the supply chain manager  
11 to the supply chain manager utilizing the network, wherein the daily sales data is  
12 organized based on the stores from which the daily sales data originated.
- 1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 8. The system of claim 6, wherein the stores, the distributors, the suppliers, the  
2 supply chain manager, and the office of the supply chain manager communicate  
3 utilizing a network-based interface.
- 1 9. The system of claim 6, wherein the gross purchase data includes monthly gross  
2 purchase data.
- 1 10. The system of claim 6, wherein the supply chain manager manages the  
2 distributors.
- 1 11. A computer program product for providing network-based supply chain  
2 communication between stores, distributors, suppliers, a supply chain manager,  
3 and an office of the supply chain manager, comprising:
  - 4 a) computer code for transmitting invoice level sales data from the supplier to the  
5 supply chain manager utilizing a network;

- 6    b)    computer code for sending invoice level sales data from the distributors to the
- 7            supply chain manager utilizing the network;
- 8    c)    computer code for communicating daily sales data from the stores to the office of
- 9            the supply chain manager utilizing the network; and
- 10   d)    computer code for transmitting daily sales data from the office of the supply chain
- 11            manager to the supply chain manager utilizing the network, wherein the daily
- 12            sales data is organized based on the stores from which the daily sales data
- 13            originated.

1    12.    The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the network includes the  
2            Internet.

1    13.    The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the stores, the distributors,  
2            the suppliers, the supply chain manager, and the office of the supply chain  
3            manager communicate utilizing a network-based interface.

1    14.    The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the gross purchase data  
2            includes monthly gross purchase data.

1    15.    The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the supply chain manager  
2            manages the distributors.